

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended): An R-Fe-B alloy based thin film magnet ~~characterized by~~ comprising an R-Fe-B based alloy which contains 28 to 45 percent by mass of R element (where R represents at least one type of rare-earth lanthanide elements) and which is physically formed into ~~[[a]]~~ an alloy film, wherein the R-Fe-B based alloy has a composite texture comprising $R_2Fe_{14}B$ crystals grown by heat treatment of said alloy film and having a crystal grain diameter of 0.5 to 30 μm and R-element-rich grain boundary phases formed by the heat treatment present at boundaries between the crystals, and having a nucleation type coercive force.

2. (Currently amended): The R-Fe-B alloy based thin film magnet according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein c axes, which are easy-to-magnetize axes, of $R_2Fe_{14}B$ crystals are oriented randomly or oriented nearly perpendicularly to a film surface.

3. (Currently amended): The R-Fe-B alloy based thin film magnet according to Claim 1 or Claim 2, wherein the film thickness is 0.2 to 400 μm .

4. (Withdrawn, currently amended): A method for preparation of the R-Fe-B alloy based thin film magnet according to any one of Claims 1 to 3, the method ~~characterized by~~ comprising the step of heating the R-Fe-B based alloy to 700°C to 1,200°C during physical alloy film

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formation or/and the following heat treatment, so as to grow crystal grains and form R-element-rich grain boundary phases.